Dewan's reply.—Proposals on these subjects are now under the consideration of Government.

Subject No. 93.

Irrigation cess on land irrigated from private wells.

Summary of discussion.—At the Survey Settlement, an irrigation cess of one anna per rupee of assessment was imposed on lands irrigated from private wells. This is wrong. The cess should be remitted.

Dewan's reply.—This was represented last year and relief was promised (see Subjects Nos. 105 and 188 of last year's Proceedings). Information has been called for from Districts and is awaited. The cess in such cases will be remitted.

Subject No. 94.

Khatedar's consent in cases of sub-divisions of fields.

Summary of discussion.—When the co-sharers and the khatedar disagree the land is not now sub-divided at the request of the co-sharers, but the Revenue authorities ask for the consent of the khatedars and if they be unwilling refer the parties to a Civil Court. This should not be. The Revenue authorities should enquire into each dispute and decide it on its merits.

Dewan's reply.—Land cannot be allowed to be sub-divided without the khatedar's consent.

Subject No. 95.

Applications for sub-division of fields should be disposed of by Amildars.

Summary of discussion.—Applications for Phod are now submitted to the Deputy Commissioner by the Amildar for orders. This causes delay. The Amildars should be empowered to dispose of such applications.

Dewan's reply.—I am afraid this cannot be done.

Subject No. 96.

Local Fund Grants-in-aid for village improvements.

Summary of discussion.—The large villages of this Taluk have no Municipalities. Their drains and roads are neglected. Appropriate sums from Local Funds should be devoted for their improvement, and particularly for the excavation of wells for drinking water-supply where they do not exist.

Dewan's reply.—This can be done to a limited extent under rules which are under consideration.

Subject No. 97.

Revision of Potgi of Shanbhogs and Patels.

Summary of discussion.—Five years have elapsed since the last settlement of the Potgi. The revenue has increased during this time. Potgi should be revised and increased in proportion to the revenue.

Dewan's reply.—Yes, in due course.

Subject No. 98.

Free licenses required for Malnad timber.

Summary of discussion.—Free licenses are granted under the rules to Maidan agriculturists to cut timber in Malnad jungles. But the Amildars of Taluks in which these jungles are situated raise difficulties. Redress is required.

Dewan's reply.—Represent individual cases by petition, and they shall receive attention.

Subject No. 99.

Trees on strips of land forming boundaries of fields.

Summary of discussion.—Raiyats need not apply for permission to remove jali and other jungle trees growing on the boundary line of their fields. No restraint should be placed on them in removing these trees which are their property.

Dewan's reply.—The strips of land between boundary marks required by para 17, Rule XXX of the rules under the the Land Revenue Code, to be left unploughed, are not Government land nor the trees standing thereon (unless specially reserved on behalf of Government) the property of Government. Occupants of land are at liberty to take them. If as to ownership, there be a dispute between occupants of two adjacent fields, that will be matter for settlement by the parties in due course.

Subject No 100. Shanbhog and Patel hakdars to officiate by rotation.

Summary of discussion.—Since the introduction of the Potgi system, only one individual out of the several hakdars is recognized to be the Patel of the village. This gives rise to quarrels between him and the other hakdars and to a factious spirit very prejudicial to the village community. Therefore, as in the Bombay Presidency, each hakdar may be allowed to be the Patel of the village in rotation for one or three years. This proposal should also be adopted in the case of Shanbhogs. The individual receiving the Potgi should not be the only recognized Shanbhog of the village, his co-sharers should succeed him in rotation and enjoy the Potgi also. Mr. Malali Kalappa (Representative from Manjarabad Taluk) also brought forward two other classes of cases in which a system of officiating by rotation was necessary. One class is of villages in which there have been more than one Patel officiating jointly. Another class is of villages which before the Survey Settlement were separate villages and had separate Patels but which for the sake of the convenience of Revenue accounts were at the settlement amalgamated two or more together and named after the largest of them in consequence of which the rights of the Patels of the absorbed villages are becoming extinguished.

Dewan's reply.—The subject is under consideration of Government.

Subject No. 101. Seigniorage on Kamara wood.

Summary of discussion.—The existing rate of 10 annas per cubic foot of kamara wood should be reduced, and the old rate of 3 rupees per cart-load revived or let a depôt be established and the wood brought there and sold by auction.

Dewan's reply.—This cannot be done. It is reserved timber called also Karachi.

Subject No. 102. Free grant of Date trees.

Summary of discussion.—Dead Date trees should be given free to the raiyats. The present fee of 4 annas per tree should be abolished. Amildars should dispose of the applications for these trees without reference to the Deputy Commissioner.

Mr. Chikkanna Shetti (Representative from Tumkur District) submitted that decaying or top dry and not merely absolutely dead trees should be allowed to be taken.